

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Office Action dated March 21, 2006.

Double Patenting

In response to the statutory double patenting rejection, claim 8 has been cancelled.

In response to the non-statutory double patenting rejection, a terminal disclaimer is filed herewith, which disclaims the term of any patent granted from the present application extending beyond the term of US Patent No. 6,997,698 or any patent granted from copending Application No. 10/753,389.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102 & 103

The subject-matter of claim 14 has been incorporated into claim 1. The Examiner has not raised any objections to the patentability of claim 14. It is therefore submitted that claim 1 now meets all the requirements of 35 USC 102 & 103.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,
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